

# WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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## The Passing Show.

Capitalism is under the searchlight, and the workers are everywhere striking against it.

Amongst the worst products of capitalism are masters and slaves.

The present industrial unrest is largely due to the many who enjoy too much rest, the idle rich and the unemployed poor.

Note how solid the master class is in its attack upon the working class. Whatever the workers attempt, the masters oppose.

The man who talks about "my country" and "my job" has been mentally twisted by those who own both his country and his job.

The army and navy are gigantic machines which the capitalists use to grind the workers with. The workers are dilly enough to operate these machines.

EX-Minister for Lands Neilson has returned from a mission to America with a lot of ideas about scientific dry farming, all calculated to induce the farmer to produce more. If the farmer produces more under capitalism it means that he will have to sell it at lower rates.

The farmer now has to send his produce into a market where a lot of profit-hunters wrangle over the price of it. When they have done very little of its value finds its way back to the farmer.

Federal Attorney-General Hughes wants the Federal Government to have more power to make laws, but he keeps appointing new judges to the High Court to annul them.

The plumes are out with a new cry. They claim that the Australian navy must belong to the empire warmongers located in Britain or the other nations will not recognise it. Hughes, Fisher, and Pearce have hastened to explain that it is a part of the British fleet, and is to be only Australian in name.

The daily papers have been publishing lists showing the worker how he can cut down his weekly expenses and live on less. They did not tell him that the more he practices economy, the more the master, seeing he can live on less, will reduce his income, and retain more for himself.

In the Boer war the Boer riflemen always made a point of picking off the enemy's leading officers first. There was sound sense in their action. The officers are generally chosen from the ranks of the exploiting class, which is the real enemy of the workers. If every army shot the officers instead of the members of their own class, wars would soon cease. If workers are compelled to become soldiers, they should be careful only to shoot at their real enemy.

Federal Minister Thomas, in a speech at Korrumburra, Victoria, on April 10, said that though he had always been in favor of industrial arbitration, yet it was better to have strikes than stagnation. "Men in the hop fields of Tasmania were working for 1s. a day. Women and children were also working in those fields. It was better to have strikes than such a state of things." That utterance was merely delivered in a burst of candor in an unguarded moment, for the Labor party, to which Mr. Thomas belongs, is just now straining the truth to breaking point to show the wonderful effects on wages and prosperity of Labor Government. To admit that strikes would be better than the state of stagnation existing in Tasmania is to prompt the query—what are Mr. Thomas and the Labor party doing? Are they doing anything to wake their 24s. a week workers up, or are they keeping them in their

## The Worker's Referendum.



THE WORKER: "I don't think I'll ever reach it, even if he gets more power."

soundulent state with whiffs of referenda and other political smoke?

Two young men, convicted of several burglaries at Darlinghurst sessions a few days ago ascribed their incursion into crime as being due to reading sensational reports in newspapers and books of crime. One of the boys said that "the first thing that attracted his attention was reading sensational reports in the daily Press of the big hauls made by burglars. Every day they saw reports in the papers of fine hauls, which were being made; the burglars seemed to be doing very well. At the same time he was reading a book called 'The Master Criminal.' After he decided to take it on." Poor misguided youths! Had they known the way of the world and the daily Press better, they would have studied the financial columns of the newspapers and learnt how to rob legally and safely. The trade of burglary is crude and amateurish compared with that of high finance. "A little learning is a dangerous thing; Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring; There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain, And drinking largely sobers us again."

Considering crime, that is, legalised crime, what could be more odious and horrible than the crimes of some of the early English cotton magnates who sweated children of tender years to death and founded the fortunes of some of England's "best families"? What could be more loathsome than the crimes of those who plunged Britain into the infamous Boer war? When we see one of the principal scoundrels connected with that monstrous infamy greeted "Sir," and cheered, and made much of by Englishmen, in the streets of London, we are amazed at the low level "city men" have fallen to. To see Dr. Jameson appointed chairman of the Chartered Company, and the Press applauding the choice, and speaking highly of that practical raider, is not surprising to anyone who knows what robber companies and a robbers' Press Britain harbors. There was nothing brave or manly about the Jameson raid. It was an act of stupendous folly. Its leader was an ass, with a pirate's criminal instincts, and when he was met by a man of ordinary common courage he surrendered like a cur.

A Press cable of April 10, announced that the first Chinese Parliament had been opened at Peking by the first President of the Chinese Republic. Ten years ago such a thing would have been regarded as an impossibility, yet now, even more wonderful things are expected of China. The International Socialist Bureau, anxious for information as to the state of the movement in China, applied to Sun-Yat-Sen, the organiser and propagandist of Socialism in China, to whom the Chinese revolt against the

Manchu dynasty to a great extent, was due. From the reply of Sun-Yat-Sen, it appears that the Chinese Socialist party has adopted the principles of the international. He estimated that the Socialists would obtain 60 to 70 per cent of the total vote at their impending elections. The capitalist Press is keeping very dark about the actual results so that we may assume that the Socialists have done too well for their liking, and that the capitalisation and exploitation of China is not so near as they thought it to be. However, that may be, great interest centres upon China, whose people have shown themselves more enlightened than Mikado-worshipping Japan and some other King-worshipping nations.

D. R. Hall, New South Wales Minister for Justice, remitted the penalties imposed upon Glynn and Rudd, I.W.A. speakers, who were fined for street speaking. In doing so, he gave his city council credit a good thrust or two. He said: "If the city council is prepared to take the responsibility of treating everyone alike and prosecute all who obstruct the street traffic by holding meetings, singing, etc., I will, whilst differing from its view, respect its decision. But where it is apparent that there is a differentiation against one section of speakers, I will not hesitate to recommend a remission of penalties, provided the language used by the speakers is not indiscreet, and the ideas not obscene. If the men in question had wholly blocked the traffic and refused to desist when requested, the case would be different. As it is, they did no more nor less than other bodies do who hold street meetings and are not interfered with." The greasy, adipose Lord Mayor, who led the scabs in the Gas Strike, said recently, that he allowed the other bodies to speak in the streets because of their good social work, but he is hardly a person to be allowed to discriminate. He is too feudal, too grasping, too anti-labor, so much prejudiced, and ignorant to be allowed to interfere in such matters.

Facts and economic forces working upon the minds of the workers are having a wonderful effect. A Labor Government rules the Commonwealth, and a Labor party is in power in New South Wales, and both of them disbelieve in strikes, and uphold arbitration as a means of preventing them. In spite of Labor Governments, however, their supporters are repudiating arbitration and going on strike with increasing frequency. Within a few weeks, New South Wales has had four big strikes, and others are pending. No fines, imprisonment, or threats deter the workers from striking, and though sometimes there seems little hope of winning, yet the inclination to fight rather than put up with existing conditions impels men to down tools and cease work. While we

deplore the fact that the average worker does not understand his position and refuses to study or try to find out what really is the matter, yet we cannot help rejoicing in this militant spirit resulting from the force of circumstances. Great fortunes are being built up, and huge dividends are being raked in from the workers' toil and skill, and while he is being exploited on his job, the cost of living keeps going up, and the Arbitration Courts are powerless to help him. He is being slowly driven by forces outside his control to see the class struggle, and once he sees that the downfall of capitalism will be swift and certain, and that the King's horses and all the King's men, will never be able to set it up again.

A remarkable article appeared in Sydney "Daily Telegraph" on April 11, entitled, "Industrial Arbitration Legislation: is it a failure?" That such an article was allowed to appear is in itself a sign of the times, but when we see such a paper lending itself to the hammering in of truths which the despised writers of this paper have been making clear, then we are cheered by the reflection that our propaganda is telling. The writer of the article above-mentioned concludes thus:—

The case of compulsory arbitration is hopeless. It is impracticable to attempt to enforce awards against the men, and the benefits to the employer are so small and so doubtful that it is unfair to keep this legislation on our books. The means by which labor can obtain a larger share of the available profits have to be found, and found quickly, not only in this country, but throughout the world, for industrial unrest is world-wide, and labor has made up its mind that it is going to get that larger share, and get it soon. But it will not do so by compulsory arbitration, for no legislation can be good or effective which is not impartial in its incidence. It is not the purpose of this article to suggest a remedy. But it will be well for our legislators when dealing with the subject to remember that any law which cannot be equally enforced against both employer and employee is defective in its very nature, and must fail in its purpose.

At the International History Congress which met in Lincoln's Inn on April 4, a remarkable paper by Mr. James Bryce, British Ambassador to the United States, was read in his absence. Mr. Bryce said that speaking as a traveller in India, Africa, America, and Australasia, he saw the small, weaker, and more backward races changing under the impact with civilised man. Their religious beliefs were withering and their customs fading. Some, like the Maoris, were being absorbed into the whole population. The world was becoming one in a new sense.

Except China and Japan, almost the entire earth was controlled by six European races. Eight powers swayed the political destinies of the globe. By the year 2000 nine-tenths of the human race of the world would be speaking less than 20 languages. Already there were only four great religions. Nowadays, whatever happened in any part of the world had a significance everywhere, including industrial disputes. Money markets and finance, even more than politics, made the world a single community.

The world's history, said Mr. Bryce, was tending to become one history. The historian of the future would need an amplitude of conception, and a power of grouping figures like Tintoretto or Michael Angelo, if he was to handle so vast a canvas. The student of history was specially called upon to try and reduce the sources of international ill-feeling. Historians knew how few wars were necessary.

Mr. Bryce's paper will furnish additional ammunition to be used by Socialists against militarists, nationalists, patriots, and religious fanatics.

W. R. WINSPEAR.

When you have read this paper hand it to a friend.



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## The Referenda.

### Why Vote "Yes?"

The Labor Party's proposals fatal to working class interests. No unionist or Socialist can consistently vote "Yes."

Next month we are to be asked by the Federal Labor party to vote "yes" to their Referenda proposals. These proposals have been before the workers for the past three years, but so far there has been no serious attempt to show that they have anything to gain or lose by voting "yes" or "no" on the six bills on which they are asked to vote.

We have waited patiently for the statements of the leaders of the Labor party, to see if they had any reasons which we had not yet considered, to show why we should vote "yes," but after reading the addresses of the Prime Minister, Mr. Fisher, and the Attorney-General, Mr. Hughes, we are forced to conclude that there are no sufficient reasons to be advanced to induce us to go to the poll and support the Referenda.

We have come to this conclusion with some reluctance, because we would very much have liked to see the Labor party continue in power and pass their Referenda proposals in order to prove their absolute worthlessness, but a careful examination of the speeches of the leaders, and a knowledge of the fraudulent nature of their proposals impels us to actively oppose them in self-defence, if for no other reason.

It is to be expected that the Labor Party whole will not thank us for this; that they cannot be turned from their course by mere argument, however sound it may be, and that only hard economic facts working on their minds will have any effect upon them, but we owe it to ourselves and those who are with us not to allow the proposals to pass without a warning protest.

The Labor party's claim for increased power is made under cover of a plea for better conditions for the workers. The party leaders say that they are powerless to deal with the exploiters of labor under the present laws and ask for increased powers so that they may carry out a policy of nationalisation and industrial arbitration.

As to their proposals for nationalisation, the party leaders claim that the trusts are an evil which ought to be dealt with by legislation. It has been their custom to talk of abolishing the trusts, but owing to the hammering that Socialists have given that kind of talk it has been dropped, and Mr. Hughes and other leaders now say that they will do no injustice to any industry, and that for every industry the Government takes over full payment will be given to the owners by the Government.

Regarding this proposal to buy the trusts out, we would point out that the trusts themselves will have a large say in the terms of settlement, and that the omniscient and disinterested High Court judges will, doubtless, have the pleasing duty cast upon them of fixing the price. When the price is fixed by the trusts, the High Court, and those trusty representatives of the people, the Federal Labor leaders, the money will have to be found amounting to hundreds of millions. The financiers of the world are then to be asked for accommodation, and the money trusts given a lien over the nationalised industries. Under this system the State would be the apparent owner, but the foreign financiers would be the real owners, and would draw perpetual interest therefrom. The proposal, then, would simply result in transferring the ownership from one name to another, while it increased the public debt and tightened the bonds of working class slavery.

We claim, then, that the Labor party's proposal to deal with the trusts, will fail, as they failed recently against the Coal Vend and the Sugar Trust. We hold that the trusts cannot be abolished, and that if they could be abolished, they should not, for trusts and combines constitute the most effective and scientific way of organising industry and production, and eliminate waste, ruinous competition, and needless overlapping.

In the absence of any sound argument in favor of nationalising trusts and combines, we ask the workers to consider the company they are in when they support such schemes under the impression that they are a step towards Socialism. The Labor party proposes them in Australia, but the plutocrats are proposing them in America, Russia, Japan, and other countries. If these proposals, so dishonestly made in the sacred name of Socialism, were calculated to benefit the workers, how comes it that the worst enemies of labor in other countries are proposing them to counter the demand that labor should enjoy the full fruits of its toil?

The Labor party forced Conscription upon us in the name of a "Citizen Army," pretending that such is necessary to protect us against an "Asiatic invasion," and a "piebald Australia." Now the Tories of Britain—the bitter and unscrupulous enemies of Labor—are hailing the system with delight, and are forcing it upon Britain. How is this? How is it that the Australian Labor party are doing the same work here that the oppressors of the working class are doing elsewhere?

In addition to the proposal to buy the trusts out, the Labor party asks for power to establish an Arbitration Court, which shall control industrial conditions and settle or prevent disputes. The workers in some of the States have already had experience of compulsory arbitration to a limited extent, and, judging by the way they are reverting to the strike, and the criticisms they are levelling at the system it does not seem to be regarded as an unmitigated blessing. But if the Commonwealth Labor party's proposal is carried and an Arbitration Court is established with jurisdiction over every worker in Australia, and with a conscript army at the Government's disposal to enforce awards and absolute obedience to the arbitration laws, the workers' freedom will be absolutely gone. If carried, this proposal means that the workers' legal right to use the power of organisation and unionism in direct action on the industrial field will be abrogated. Under this proposal the right of any union to advocate, support, or countenance a strike of another union will be abolished and the present industrial slavery will be intensified and established without alternative.

Prime Minister Fisher declared in his Maryborough speech that until the Constitution is amended nothing can be done to protect the workers. He said, "Protection of the workers in protected industries cannot be assured, while protection of the consumer, i.e., of the community generally, is quite impossible. We therefore most strongly urge that the amendments of the Constitution now before you should be approved, in which case we shall take immediate steps to put the policy of the new protection into force and give such protection to the community and the workers, as may be necessary."

The Prime Minister knows that the guinea-pig capitalists are squeaking against trusts and strikes. He appeals to them, feeling sure that they will not vote against the suppression of trusts and strikes. He appeals to the workers with the promise of new protection, being tolerably certain that the workers will not vote against a proposal which seems to give them a larger share of the produce of their labor. If, however, the proposals should be negatived, then there is the trump to play, Mr. Fisher will increase the old protection, and the mammoth trusts, the guinea-pig capitalists, and the devout, fanatical unfortunates, who imbibe their economic ideas from "The Age" and "The Worker" will be gathered together in a happy band in support of the Labor party. Each interest is catered for, each is promised something. The trusts are promised a blow with a legal kapok pillow, and the suppression of strikes; their squeaking guinea-pig victims are promised the suppression of the big trusts that are banqueting on their dwarfed brethren who are endeavouring to grow into giants; and the worker is to have new protection against both mammoths and guinea-pigs. 'Tis a beautiful and a deep laid scheme!

The Attorney-General, Mr. Hughes, in opening his election campaign, said: "The Labor party for three years has had a majority in both houses, and has been

able to do whatever it pleased." In the same speech, he, like Mr. Fisher, spoke of their lack of power to do certain things in the interests of the workers. They had passed 82 bills into law, but strange to say, none of them were in the interests of labor, none of them seem to have improved the worker's lot. The party needs additional powers before it can commence to pass legislation in the interests of the working class. They could pass amendments to the Conscription Act making it more drastic. They could build battleships, and gun factories, and compel the workers' sons to train to defend their masters' property. They could pass Acts to increase trade, manufacturers, wealth, production, banking assets, banking deposits, rents, interests, and profits, but nothing could be done to increase the returns to the workers or better their conditions. Additional powers must be granted ere they can commence such work. The workers must vote "yes" six times before the Government can start once. If they do not so vote, then the Government will tighten the economic thumb screws of industry, and proceed to give their masters more "protection."

During the recent strikes in New South Wales the employers throughout Australia have been against the workers. The employers have shown themselves to be class-conscious, and solid on the industrial field. Being solid they command respect from all Governments, whether Liberal or Labor. They are solid in politics as well as in industry, and this is why Labor Governments bow to their will and promise them increased military protection, increased Arbitration Court protection against strikes, and increased tariff protection against foreign competition. Every proposal of the Federal Labor Government is dictated by an inclination to serve the united and powerful employing class.

How, then, does Labor stand with regard to the Referenda proposals? Can the trades unionists, who are united against the employers upon the industrial field, logically vote with them or for them at the ballot box? Can the Socialists who, have unmasked the legislative acts of the Federal Labor party logically turn back, and reversing their previous judgment, go to the polls and vote for proposals which they know to be treacherous in the extreme?

The time has gone by when organized labor can assume the same attitude of independence in politics as the non-unionist does industrially. The trades unionists who demand solidarity in an industrial dispute cannot consistently justify dissension and non-unionist tactics when fighting the same battle against the same enemy at the ballot box. The unionist hates a "scab," because he is a traitor to his own class—the working class. He knows the "scab" is a traitor, because he sees him surrendering the interests of his fellow workers on the job where he is employed. For a personal advantage to himself the scab aids the employers to defeat the workers when they go on strike, and he is hated as labor's most despicable enemy. But is it not as disastrous for unionists to betray each other at the ballot box as it is for non-unionists to betray them on the job? Can unionists be unionists industrially, and non-unionists politically, with safety to themselves?

We put these questions to unionists and Socialists, because we hold that it is just as disastrous and infamous to vote for principles which favor the enemy as it is to go over to the enemy in the midst of an industrial war. We recognise the class war, and urge readers to bear the class war in mind when they are considering how to vote. Wherever we can get in a blow at capitalism, and the class which benefits under it, we ought to strike, whether on the job, in the polling booth, or in the Church.

We are legally compelled to enrol by the Labor party, but we cannot be compelled to vote against our own class interests, and, therefore, all things considered, we urge readers of this paper to vote "No" to the Referenda proposals. Those who do not vote "No" should write "Socialist" across their ballot paper, and thus refuse to be a party to the Labor party's treachery.

W. H. WINSPEAR.

There will always be some people whose brains or muscular systems will be better adapted for scientific work, or for artistic work, while others will be more fit for manual labor, or for work requiring mechanical precision, etc.

What ought not to be, and what will not be—is that there should be some men who do not work at all, and others who work too much, or receive too little reward for their toil.—Ferri.

When you have finished with this paper, pass it on to a friend.

## More Wine.

### What the "Communist Manifesto" says.

Socialism the only hope for the proletariat. By Luke Jones.

In my last article I proved that two of the three objections to political action were valueless. I will now endeavour to prove that the third is equally unsound. This objection lays it down that since the capitalist class owns and controls the machinery of production, etc., and therefore dominates all the institutions in society, it is futile to attempt to use the political weapon to overthrow capitalism.

It is urged by the anti-political school that Parliament is a capitalist institution, and that its main function is to bolster up the class state. The political machinery of the State has been, and is, used to openly assist the master class in the wholesale exploitation and robbery of the workers. The treachery of the politician is established beyond doubt. The most able of working class leaders have victims to the temptations of gold, even Socialists have deserted the army of Labor and joined the ranks of reaction. Look again at the mad rush of labor leaders competing one with another to supply the jingoes with dreadnoughts to force conscription upon the nation, to send to gaol babies and youths whose only offence against the law consists in refusing to obey the dictates of the king of military cutthroats who are denouncing the morality of young Australia. Politics is for the working class a dead letter; is played out; is an invention of the vampire class; is a red-herring, drawn across the true path of progress! Strike at the ballot-box—with an axe!!!

Now this sounds very tragic when repeated with great declamation to a crowd of people who know nothing about economics and less if it were possible, about sociology. When it is performed merely the same effect is produced as Chapman, of mission fame, obtains from a hall full of slobbering "converts" after a heated and carefully worded exhortation to avoid the temptations of the "evil one." If you substitute political action for "sin" you can safely guide your flock into the millennium with any of the eloquent Dr.'s perorations, to the accompaniment of "Hallelujah! I'm a bum!" amidst rounds of applause.

But, perhaps, the writings of Marx will indicate the value of political action. I am aware, of course, of the comparative insignificance of such effusions as the "Communist Manifesto" alongside literature of the anti-political camp. Nevertheless, at the risk of being considered "out of date" I will quote from that interesting, if erroneous publication: "Every class struggle is a political struggle" (Chap. I, p. 25.). This statement of historical fact seems to me quite conclusive evidence of the absolute necessity for political action. Again: "The immediate aim of the Communists is the same as that of all the other proletarian parties; formation of the proletariat into a class, overthrow of the bourgeois supremacy, conquest of political power by the proletariat."

"The theoretical conclusions of the Communists are in no way based on ideas or principles that have been invented, or discovered, by this or that would-be reformer."

"They merely express, in general terms, actual relations springing from an existing class struggle, from a historical movement going on under our very eyes" (Chap. 2, p. 30-31).

Do you require more proof? Then all the works of Marx and Engels teem with it. This may not suit our straight-out "pure and simple" industrialist, so we will proceed to analyze his "elixir of life," and see if perchance some particles of the dangerous drug have inadvertently crept in unawares to the gentlemen who so carefully mixed the draught.

Let us assume that we have an industrial organisation of wage-workers, and that a reduction of hours is contemplated. The anti-politician says "why delegate your power to someone else when you can do the thing yourself?" so, in accordance with this dictum each individual "does it himself" and just decides to work only so long and in such a manner and for such pay as he himself decides. How beautiful! Or, perhaps the organisation, of which he is a part, being non-political, assembles, discusses ways and means, and votes thereon—(there being no other way of discovering the best method), and having decided by majority what to do, proceeds to carry out the decisions. This is done, of course, by each individual acting as his own executive, president, sec-



retary, treasurer, and organiser without the aid of elected persons? Or would it not be more likely that certain qualified persons were selected to carry out the policy and aims of the organisation, by directing, centralising, meeting the opposite side to convey messages given by the general body?

Here it is plain that the organisation must have certain objects in view, and a pre-arranged policy of action, and certain elected functionaries who act for the body, else of what use is organisation at all. This being so, the body becomes political by virtue of having a given policy on any point, and, if it should so happen that in the course of time the functions of Parliament are rendered useless through the operations of this body, then, as the majority of the community are included in the "one big union," the seat of political power is simply transferred from defunct Parliament to new-born Industrial Executive. We have, therefore, a distinction without a difference, and moreover, we still have the manifestation of the voice or will of the people only it has simply changed its residence, and assumed another name. It is still composed of men, and they are the reflex of the people who elected them.

To be consistent in applying the deduction of the materialist conception of history to present society, is apparently no part of the anti-political partisan's intentions. This is left to the stupid old Socialist movement to do after the undertaker has been engaged to give the new-born anti-political abortion as decent a burial as its anarchist parentage merits. *Requiescat in pace.*

The vault contains some notable remains, Proudhon, Henry George, and General Booth (by the Grace of God), so general company is assured to our dear departed brother.

Now the A.S.P., taking its stand upon the scientific deductions of Marx, recognises the supreme value of education to the working class (economic and social education), and does its utmost to translate all the social, political, and industrial phenomena into educational value. It sees clearly that the transition from Capitalism to Socialism will only take place when two conditions are fulfilled:

1. Highly concentrated economic forces.
2. Psychologic development corresponding to economic foundation of society.

Next week we shall see what the functions of Revolutionary Socialism are. There is a great future for the Socialist movement. It has a splendid task before it. Already the top-heaviness of capitalist society is manifest. A system of society that has for its foundations a seething mass of misery, poverty, crime, and prostitution, is ethically unfit to survive. The wail of the starving child, the blood-lust of the jingo, the brutalised human wreck, the degraded harlot and the sot, together with the conscienceless judge, the pampered glass-eyed noodle, the over (or under) dressed female freak, the lackey, and lickspittle ever ready to grovel and toady to £ s d; all will disappear with the advent of Socialism. It is the only hope.

There are a few vacancies for earnest men and women in the movement. Hasten before you're too late.

#### WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.

##### Startling Military Activity.

#### BY DEFENCE AUTHORITIES.

Startling military activity is being shown by the Melbourne defence authorities.

Practically the whole of the fighting force is being suddenly brought up to its full war strength, as regards officers and skilled branches. War material is being extensively purchased, so that a large force may be able to take the field at an hour's notice.

A possible European complication is said to be responsible for the sudden development.—Sydney Daily Paper.

Now that the military authorities have taken charge of Senator Pearce the above is commencing to appear rather frequently. The "possible European complication" is thrown in merely as an excuse for the extensive purchase of war material. The war material manufacturers are also experts in the manufacture of "possible European complications." It's a fine scheme, and some of the manufacturers could give points and a beating to any of those who "tell stories to the marines." The story of "The Rich Uncle in Fiji" is a childish fable compared with some of the war material manufacturers' yarns.

W. R. WINSPEAR.

Every new subscriber you get for "The International Socialist" is a blow struck at Capitalism.

## Trades Union Congress Melbourne Unemployed. 1913.

### Present Methods Futile.

The workers are beginning to talk of Socialism. Jump into the firing line.

Members of craft unions are slowly but surely recognising that the present system of industrial organisation is futile in its efforts to combat modern capitalism.

At the Trade Union Congress of 1912 motions were carried expressing the desirability of a closer system of industrial organisation. From this conference an executive was appointed to act in conjunction with the Labor Council executive to draw up a constitution and rules, to be submitted to the next union conference. A sub-committee was appointed which drew up a draft of rules. At a meeting of the joint executive the delegates from the Labor Council unanimously voted the sub-committee's draft down, and further recommended to the council that a federation could be best effected by broadening the Labor Council's constitution and rules. Between the Labor Council and the Congress there is an antagonism, for whilst the Congress was sitting the council was preparing to receive the proposed revision of rules. Easter Monday morning brought together some forty-six delegates from various unions; each union being allowed two delegates.

The conference did nothing in the way of making history. It did not seem to recognise the possibilities nor the probabilities of such a conference. It was not enthused with a spontaneity. It was not some living thing being born from out of an apparent chaotic industrial state. It was not militant. It did not have that quickening impulse that is born from all movements of the working class. In fact, the congress didn't make one mistake. It was respectable. Respectable beyond degree. This conference will go down marked abortive. Abortive only because it is not backed up by an educated rank and file.

To-day there are three factors in the craft union movement. The first is the craft union itself. The second is the federation of crafts through the various States, and thirdly, the Labor Council, all of which favor arbitration and wages boards. The result is the petty craft union is tied up to an agreement. The federated craft union is tied up to an agreement. The Trades and Labor Council is made up of 113 unions, all of which are tied up to wage board agreements, each of which expire at various dates. The result being indescribable industrial confusion. Congress did not attempt to deal with this question.

To show that congress had not the slightest intention of altering the present industrial and political position, it is only necessary to read clause "d" of objects: It states that "the objects of the federation shall be to secure the direct representation of labor in Parliament, and to promote such legislative reform as shall ensure social justice." The inclusion of this clause means that the federation either intends to run direct Parliamentary candidates in the political field, or it is to be used to build up the present political Labor party.

The running of direct candidates is the farthest idea from the minds of the congress delegates. The majority of which are delegates on the Trades and Labor Council. No one, even in his maddest moment, could conceive of the Labor Council running candidates on the political field, yet this identical clause is inserted as clause "d" in the objects of the Labor Council by the revision of rules committee. Nuff sed.

It has been clearly demonstrated that craft unionists will not tolerate the running of trades union candidates. In September, 1912, the Barrier Political Labor League sent the following request: "We are asking all the unions of New South Wales for an expression of opinion on the following subjects: (1) Are you in favor of establishing a Trades Political Party? Among other things the statement that accompanied the request went on to say: "This has been placed before every affiliated union in Broken Hill; each has considered the proposition, and everyone has endorsed it." What other union outside of Broken Hill, with the exception of the coal lumpers who took a ballot on the question, seriously considered the Broken Hill request? The Sydney Trades and Labor Council, which may fairly claim to express the aggregate wish of the craft unionists, handed the matter over to its executive, which promptly recommended that it be turned down. This was done.

### An All Fools' Day Hoax.

Labor Bureau figures show that there are thousands unemployed. J. R. Wilson.

Under the heading of "All Fools' Day," a heartless Hoax, call for Drivers," etc., there appeared in the Melbourne "Evening Herald," an onslaught, upon some person or persons unknown, who, as a result of their distorted sense of humour, inserted the following advertisement in one of the day-lie Press of that morning. "Drivers, single and double waggons, union wages, 8.30, 103-109 Smith Street, Fitzroy."

As a result of this advertisement fully 100 men, says the "Herald," assembled at the above address, which is Mr. Brookes' furniture warehouse. Mr. Brookes, on his arrival, denied all knowledge of the advertisement referred to, and then adopting what he considered the wisest course, put a notice in the window to the effect, that the position had been filled.

The "Herald," of course, sheds tears over the 100 wageslaves who had come from far and near in the hope of disposing of their labor power, and bitterly bewails the fact that it is impossible to ascertain who the worthy is who inserted the hoax.

The heartlessness of the hoax will undoubtedly not be disputed, but methinks it is not the heartlessness of the affair with which the "Herald" is concerned, as the fact that the hoax has revealed the true state of the labor market, for which the "Herald," along with the rest of the lying claptrap organs of capitalism are responsible, and which each and all of the said gutter Press of capitalism are anxious to conceal.

Further, it does not necessarily follow that the hoax was perpetrated by a working class man upon his fellows, it may even have been inserted by the officials of the Melbourne Tramway Trust, in order to pocket a few more shillings of profit, as it is a well known fact, that trusts of a similar character in America insert advertisements of this character, known as Blind Ads., in this way helping to empty the pockets of the thousands of jobless wageslaves, eager to find an employer.

Roughly speaking, then we are safe to assume, there were 100 qualified teamsters idle on April 1st, because, be it remembered, unless men are experienced in this capacity, acquainted with the city, etc., they have little or no hope of being engaged, especially when union wages are to be paid. As I pointed out in a previous issue of this paper, that Liberal and Labor Governments were both equally responsible for assisting in glut-

and nothing more has been heard of the proposed formation of a Trades Union Political party. It is apparent from this that congress had no intention of running candidates of its own.

If the Federation is to be used to build up the present political Labor party, then why go further than the Labor Council, which allows for such contingencies? To this question optimists reply that, "when this federation materialises it will supersede the Labor Council." True; but is the Labor Council willingly going to deliver up the ghost? There are no evidences to show that it is the case to-day, the council has 113 unions affiliated to it, representing anything over 120,000 craft unionists. On the congress there were not more than thirty unions represented, and the council has thrown a challenge full in the face party, the same chaotic condition will remain in both the political and industrial movements. This federation will not do one thing to alter it.

To-day the Political Labor League allows the non-unionists, the small shop-keeper, the small employer, the petty trader, to join its ranks. Thus, it can be seen that this proposed federation of unions is pledging itself to a non-industrial organisation. To an organisation that allows the non-unionists to help to build its platform. The thing is impossible. The congress, although abortive from an immediate standpoint shows just how much educative work there is yet to be done. What are you doing in the helping of dispelling of this mental darkness? Every "International Socialist" is a ray of light. Jump right into the firing line. In every district the Socialist posters should be prominently displayed. Workers are beginning to talk of Socialism. Socialist literature will make them think. Thinkers will not tolerate for one moment the acts that are committed in the name of Labor to-day. It's thinkers we want.

F. J. RILEY.

ting the Labor market of the Commonwealth, in the interest of the exploiting class, there is no necessity to again repeat what has already been stated, and proven right up to the hilt. The infernal cheek and brazen faced impudence, however, of what is termed the P.L.C. (see leaflet entitled "Facts," which speak for themselves, authorised by Archdeacon Stewart, secretary P.L.C., Trades Hall, Melbourne), deserves some comment, especially as P.L.C. opportunists are engaged in attacking the immigration policy of the Liberal State Government.

The leaflet referred to is issued with the view of impressing upon all voters the necessity of voting "yes" for the Barnes, McKissock, and Russell, Senate candidates, one of the reasons given being the increase in immigration due to 21 years of Labor Government.

To quote the exact words and figures given, net gain for 20 years prior to 1910, 65,000, average gain per year 3,250. Net gain for 21 years of Labor Government, 139,181, average gain per year, 6,628. What Laborites will think of the above is hard to say, but if the blind faith and loyalty to this alleged Labor Government is not substantially shattered, as a result, nothing will shatter it.

To Laborites constantly raving about immigrants taking their jobs, etc., I therefore commend the above figures, and suggest that they ask themselves which Government has served Plute and Co. most faithfully. But, hold, reader, I have still another tit-bit of evidence as regards the damnably glutted state of the labor market, for which the Federal Labor Government desires to claim the credit, so that they may catch middle class votes, now that they are losing the votes of the intelligent section of the working class. Here is the evidence.

#### Registration of Applicants for Temporary Work.

Name.—A. Hilder.

Number.—6,060.

One register till May 1, 1913, unless employed. After that date your name must be registered again. If you obtain work otherwise than through the Bureau, please notify the fact by post card. Hours of registration, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon, Saturdays excepted.

The above is the exact wording on a card supplied to wage slave A. Hilder on seeking employment at the seab recruiting agency known as the Government Labor Bureau.

Now, just make a note of the number, 6,060, ponder it over, and ask yourself what it means, and you can only come to one conclusion, and that conclusion is, there are already thousands of unemployed in Melbourne, and thousands more who will be unemployed when they arrive from other countries, that they have been induced to leave as a result of the lies circulated abroad by the orders of your Federal Labor Government, and the various State Governments, both Liberal and Labor.

And again ponder it over, and you can come to only one conclusion, and that is, that the competition for jobs is keener to-day than ever it was, and that the keener the competition, the greater the opportunity of the capitalist-sweater to dictate his terms, and the more readily the starving thousands are of accepting them.

And this, forsooth, is one of the reasons advanced, why you should vote for the Referenda at the coming elections, well, vote away, do as the political monte-banks of the Labor party tell you, in other words, shut your eyes open your mouths, and see what you get. But let me remind you, while I am on the question of unemployment, and while I am averse to the conditions of this country being misrepresented abroad, with a view to further glutting the Labor market here, I recognise, and you will be compelled through time to recognise, also, that unemployment in the last analysis is due to the nature of our social economic system, and that as long as capitalism lasts, men and women will stand idle in the market place, while others are toiling from early morn till dewy eve for a bare subsistence.

In conclusion, let me again repeat, if the problem of unemployment is to be grappled with successfully, under present conditions, those who toil, must grapple with it themselves, and the only proposition in this connection worth considering, is a substantial reduction in the hours of labor, while the complete solution lies in the overthrow of capitalism, which can only be accomplished by Socialist representatives upon the political field, and sound organisation industrially of those who toil in sweat shops and fields.

Push "The International Socialist." Get subscribers.



## Victimised.

BY J. F. MARTIN.

In the feudal days of long ago, when tyrants ruled the lands,  
And brutal force and tyranny enforced their vile commands,  
When men with brute ambition cursed did crush their helpless slaves,  
And spurned their manhood in the dust and forced them to their graves.  
Through time and torture, blood and tears, at last we found the way,  
The useful class are organised our unions hold the sway.  
Deep in the womb of mother earth the miner hews the coal,  
Tis here the heroes lose their lives and miners pay their toll.  
Do you think he who risks his life for dole of daily bread,  
Could see his brother victimised and crushed by hunger's dread?  
Remember, men, your union's might is of a million years  
Of evolution's tortuous track through blood and sweat and tears.  
Fight on, my brothers, victory's yours, stern justice tyrants dread.  
They'd rob you of your manhood, they have stolen Russell's bread.  
'A wrong to one's a wrong to all's a maxim old and true,  
So help us in the battle for you know it's up to you.

## No Compensation.

## How Property was Acquired.

The earth has been appropriated by violence, robbery, and cunning.

We Socialists are sometimes requested to state our views regarding compensation.

Of course, this always refers to compensation of the capitalists for the expropriation of the means of life. Appropriated by the master class.

Let us examine the matter a little. In the first place, what do we mean by our terms, for if we are to master the subject under discussion, we must, as Mill taught us, understand the import of our words. Compensation, then, means a recompense, an equivalent, that which supplies the place of something. According to Webster, to compensate, is to make amends; to give an equivalent. Very well, let us take this authority, and we shall get on nicely.

We therefore have under consideration the question of rendering to the master class an equivalent. We have to make a statement anent a recompense. Are we to make amends? i.e., should we compensate our exploiters for loss of opportunity to extract rent, interest, and profit from ourselves.

Now, the Socialist affirms that by violence, robbery, and cunning, the master class have in the course of time, appropriated the earth, and in so doing, have exiled and finally disposed the workers from all share in the said earth, and have compelled the workers to toil on this said earth in the interest of the appropriation, the penalty for refusal being starvation and extinction. No capitalist can produce the slightest evidence that the world and its potentialities belong to his class. His claim is, might is right, his argument is force, his method is compulsion, and his standard of morality is in keeping with his mode of existence and wealth production.

But an enlightened working class are becoming discontented with the present system of society, and insist that the master class should not be permitted to continue in control of human affairs, they being of no further use to society, and are a barrier to the natural development of the human race.

Now, apologists for capitalism ask about an equivalent, supposing the workers should expropriate. But we reply, the world belongs to no section of society in particular, and the capitalist class are only a minority and have no exclusive right to the said world, or if put in the form of a syllogism it would be as follows:—

No one section of society owns the earth. But the master class are a section only. Therefore, the masters do not own the earth.

Of course, this applies equally to the workers as being a section of society, and, indeed, we do not desire to own it in the sense now understood. We common people are quite content to destroy the masters' control, believing that our mother earth will jog along serenely without a human "owner."

No, the point is, the masters have wrongfully appropriated the world. So, before deciding on the question of equivalent, or amends, let us see what the word appropriation means. Perchance it will clear the atmosphere a little. Appropriation, v.t. To put apart for a particular purpose, or one's self; to assign and appropriate, then, is the act as stated. Now I really think the readers of this ar-

icle will see the significance of this at once. Just fancy, foolish apologists asking us to make amends to wrongful appropriators of a world that doesn't belong to them, when the said act consists in setting apart for a particular purpose (profit) at our expense. Behold then the master class who have assigned unto themselves the earth and all the good things in it, having the cheek to ask us (who own nothing) to make amends; to give an equivalent, to offer recompense.

But what of the master's capital? Well, what of it? Look here. The capitalist has no exclusive right to the earth. The earth is the mother of all wealth, but labor is the father, and the capitalist is a parasite.

But to capital! the capital have patience a moment, study this syllogism. All wealth is produced (from the earth) by labor.

But capital is part of all wealth. Therefore, capital is produced by labor.

So the wretched capitalist has no leg to stand on. Now, workers, what about giving an equivalent. In the first place, the masters have nothing due to them, and, secondly, we are unable to give an equivalent for mother earth and the instruments of production, because we have nothing to pay with, unless we could catch Mars in a net, or the moon, and offer these as an equivalent. But when our idle rich, and cunning exploiters, and the other parasites who go to make up the master class, hint at compensation, then must the people remember the blood of millions spill on the altars of capitalism. If they ask us these things, let us demand an equivalent for the workers slaughtered daily—for profit. Remember the commune of 1871, remember 1848, remember the Ureka stockade, remember the Titanic, and mining disasters innumerable, the bloody battlefields. Yes, let us ask "amends" for our brothers and sisters. Oh! fellow workers! 'tis impossible, the insolent master class are so impotent to render an equivalent for our maimed bodies, and for our wasted lives, and shattered hopes and aspirations, as we are to compensate them for centuries of evil doing.

Then let the capitalist evildoers be thankful that compensation is impossible; for if an "equivalent" could be given, one could be demanded. Let the capitalist be glad, that we do not demand an equivalent for millions of our class slain at Mammon's altar. Our mission is to expropriate, i.e., to disengage from appropriation, so that the entire human race may become a mighty association of happy people.

H. J. WILKES.

Perth, W.A.

## A.S.P. News &amp; Notes.

## National Executive.

Branches can be represented by proxy delegates at the forthcoming annual conference. The names of delegates should be forwarded at once to the undersigned.

The Annual Conference will take place on Monday, May 19. Further Business for Conference will be received up to Saturday, April 19.

At the last meeting of the A. Council held Sat. April 12, Nominations for N.S.W. state elections were received, J. W. Roche, King electorate, F.J. Riley, Darling Harbour, Cecil Whitmore, Belmore.

Branches are requested to forward names of selected Candidates for the forthcoming Federal and State elections to the Administrative Council as soon as possible.

H. L. DENFORD,

8 Stephen's Buildings, Windmill-St. Millers Point, Sydney

## SYDNEY.

## MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS.

On Friday, May 2, in Concordia Hall, Music, Dancing, Oratory, Good Fellowship. 8 p.m. till 11 p.m. Admission, Gents 1s. Ladies 6d.

A Grand United Demonstration will be held in the Domain on Sunday, May 4, at 3 p.m.

## BALMAIN.

We had a good meeting at Roselle on Saturday night, Comrades Pickup and Sloan speakers. At Balmain on Sunday night Comrades M. Moore and Sloan held a successful meeting.

A social dance will be held at the Oddfellows' Hall, Darling Street, Balmain, on Saturday, April 26th. Tickets 1s. Ladies Free. Refreshments provided.

## IPSWICH.

Sometimes, but not always, sleep is refreshing, whether it is the result of the sleep, or in their solitude they be-

come depressed, or condemned by their thoughts, or the desire for mental development, and communion had gained control I know not, but the members, with the exception of Comrade Kendall, who is now residing in Brisbane, turned up in full force with new life and vigor. The impetus added two more members. It was decided to appoint Comrade Eastcrabb as delegate to the forthcoming conference, and to further augment the business for the Agenda-paper, with a few minor resolutions, which have been forwarded to the general secretary.

EASTCRABB, Secretary.

## Rockhampton Branch.

Our third open-air meeting was held on Saturday evening, April 5th. The speakers were C. Beadnell (chair), W. Jackson, E. A. Ford, and myself. All literature sold out. These meetings are becoming very popular. At the close of our last meeting the crowd broke up into groups and continued the discussion among themselves. Com. Ford who delivered his maiden speech, took the crowd by storm, and showed signs of becoming a solid fighter in the cause of abolition of wage slavery.

ALF. REES,

Sec. pro. tem.

## FURTHER BUSINESS FOR CONFERENCE.

## IPSWICH.

1. That Conference discuss the advisability of using the cinematograph for propaganda work.

2. That the stamp system in connection with pence cards be adopted.

3. That the word "Sunday" be deleted from rule 9 of Principles and Policy.

The Ad. Council appeals for financial assistance from branches and members, to aid the Newtown branch to contest Federal electorate of Cook, contributions will be received by general secretary.

## BELLINGEN NOTES.

The exigencies of tucker-hunting and a flooded river have precluded us holding forth from that democratic forum—the soap-box; but as an offset we have managed to get a letter inserted in the local paper which may lead to further correspondence, and thus accomplish in one direction what was denied in another. The letter in question was a reply to an article on "Wages Increases," in which the writer declared, amongst other assertions, that the working class were impoverishing themselves by insisting on increases without first of all augmenting production. From this, one would gather that presently we shall see the great mass of working men fling their petitions and hitting up the pike with "Maldia." The same writer warned working men against amateur economists and referred them to Judge Heydon, the Australian Solomon, as a most reliable guide in matters economic. In our reply we pointed out that an almost universal increase in commodity prices had taken place, which preceded increases in wages, and the present agitation was an attempt on the part of workers to regain their standard of living. Thus, granting the article writer's premise the working class were not pauperising themselves by taking more of the wealth produced (peculiar economies, eh!) but, indeed, were taking less than formerly, and could only regain their old position by procuring higher wages. We took care, also, to point out the difference between money wages and real wages. Verh. Sap.

The recent article on "Single Tax," in the "International Socialist," impelled us toward a renewal of our acquaintance with Henry George's book "Progress and Poverty." One of the most interesting chapters in that interesting book deals with "Interest and the Cause of Interest." We are told that "Interest springs from the power of increase, which the reproductive forces give to capital, and therefore is just." For instance: "If I raise a cow, the milk which she yields me morning and evening, is not merely the reward of the labor then exerted, but interest upon the capital which my labor expended in raising her, has accumulated in the cow." Now, single taxers claim that rent is robbery, but not so interest, and certainly we can agree with them "if" the foregoing illustration truly reflects the position. You will notice that the individual who owns the cow expended a certain amount of labor power, and you can call the results of his efforts "interest," or any other darned word you like, so long as he gets those results; but we happen to know a few dairy farmers who are milking 80 head a day, and are handing over to another person, who does not work, a certain sum every quarter. Now, part of this sum is called "interest," and yet the one who receives it does no milking or rearing of cattle. Of course, our friends of the

S.T.L. will trot out a few of those old, old stories about opening up the land by taxing land values, etc., etc., but let us take the case of the Duke of Westminster. In that part of "Progress and Poverty," dealing with the "Effects of the Remedy," Henry George writes: "To take all his ground rents by taxation (Single Tax) would largely reduce his enormous income, but would still leave him his buildings and all the income from them, etc." This income Single Taxers call interest. Perhaps Mr. Huie could explain how the Duke earns this money, I guess he doesn't milk many cows, nor do much ploughing either; but there—some of the Tax Jugglers will enlighten us. Best wishes to all. Yours,

In the Shadow of His Wing.  
GORDON BROWN.

## Darwin.

## TELEGRAM.

To Editor.

"International Socialist" Paper.

Sydney.

Warn men not to come to the Northern Territory under agreement—Union strongly objects. Trouble pending. Industrial conditions very bad. Administration unsympathetic.

(Sgd.) CHAS. O'MALLEY.

Chairman A.W.U.

LEO. S. RILEY.

Secretary A.W.U.

## Hatton's Release.

The Under Secretary for Justice writes: Sir,

"Referring to previous correspondence respecting the case of prisoner William George Hatton, now undergoing imprisonment in Bathurst Gaol, I am directed by the Minister of Justice to inform you that his Excellency the Governor has been pleased to approve of the prisoner being discharged from custody forthwith."

J. H. Williams,  
Under Secretary.

## Newtown.

## Election Notice.

Socialists and others against compulsory military training are asked to assist by sending along their contributions to our fund to contest Cook Federal electorate.

A. DUFFIELD,

Secretary,  
Chalder-St., Marrickville.

## Sydney Propaganda Fixtures.

## SATURDAY.

Rozelle—M. Moore, Griffin Talbot.  
Leichhardt—Young.  
Newtown—Duffield, Walsh, Kilburn.

## SUNDAY.

Afternoon: Domain, Condren, Jones, Kilburn.  
Evening: Market-St., Condren, Riley, Jones.  
Park-St., Dangar, Slade, Brown.  
Bathurst-St., Jones, Slade, Dangar, Condren.  
Balmain—C. Moore, Talbot.  
Newtown—Duffield, Walsh, Kilburn, Foran.

## Press and Maintenance Fund.

Already acknowledged £43 14s 1d. Collected at Club Social Rs 6d, F. M., Auburn, 1s, J. H. Corbett, 1s. Total £44 6s 7d.

## To Correspondents.

Owing to increasing pressure on our space we are compelled to hold over several important articles for future issues.

Contributors writing for publication should write in ink, on one side of the paper only, and with a fair space between words and lines. The paper used for this purpose should not be larger than letter paper, and thin enough to avoid getting a fine line for overwriting. Mark the package "Press Matter Only."

Branch Secretaries should send brief fortnightly reports or short comments on current events.

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O. BLANC, Secretary.

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(By Father Thomas J. Hagerty.)

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